



CITY COUNCIL JULY 6th, 2015 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM
City Hall, 1001 Bridge St. Vernonia OR 97064

Mission Statement

The City of Vernonia pledges to be an ethical and responsive government using community collaboration to foster leadership and a vision for civic improvement while providing a safe, peaceful, economically viable community.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance -- Mayor Parrow

2. Additions or Removal of Agenda Items

Additions to the Agenda

9. Unfinished Business

- F. Anderson Park Reservation Website
- G. Open Air Market- Definition of Success-Bill Langmaid
- H. New City Councilor Position Discussion

10. New Business

- A. Interest in Leasing City Owned Parcel off Hwy. 47
- B. Jared Medearis- Eagle Scout Project

Motion to approve agenda made by Councilor Hult. Motion was seconded by Councilor Tierney.
Motion carried.

3. Mayor Report

None

4. Councilor Committee Meeting Reports

Hult- None Seager-None Tierney-Meeting tomorrow Parrow-missed the meeting

5. Topics from the Floor/Audience Participation

Tony Schrader- Came to discuss the fire season and the fire hydrant flow issue at the hydrant at Nickerson Loop. The current hydrant is not serviced by a big enough water line to be worth anything since the pressure is insufficient. He is very concerned that there are people who knew this was happening and the fire chief was very concerned about it and pushed but never had any resolve to his concerns. The part he is trying to really push is there is a responsibility to the people of this town, and the neighbors in that neighborhood. He fears that if something does go wrong we could have a catastrophic problem. He asks the Council to place a moratorium on building permits until this issue is addressed appropriately.

Kristie Freeman- 558 1st Avenue- There is a lot of negativity towards the Police, her experience has been only pleasant. In the past the Council hasn't had the best of communication. However the Council is remedying that. They had a violation, and her problem is for the past ten years nothing has been done. It was bam and we had 14 days to remedy it. She thinks it would benefit all for notifications and reminders, she has lived here ten years and she hasn't been reminded of it.

Rick Hobart- 1185 1st Avenue- 15 years ago Nehalem Valley Carriage Co., he is getting back into business. He wants to get back into the carriage business for the community. He showed picture of his carriage. Council directed staff to help him get set up with permitting.

6. Consent Agenda for Acceptance

- A. Weekly Departmental Updates from June 19th and 26th, 2015

Motion to accept consent agenda for acceptance made by Councilor Tierney. Motion was seconded by Councilor Seager. Motion carried.

8. Consent Agenda for Approval

A. City Council Minutes June 15th, 2015

Motion to accept the City Council minutes from June 15th, 2015 made by Councilor Hult. Motion was seconded by Councilor Seager. Motion carried.

9. Unfinished Business

A. Tobacco Free Parks Draft Ordinance Discussion/

Presentation Ashley Baggett

Ashley Baggett presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding tobacco free parks. Councilor Tierney asked about including e-cigarettes, and marijuana smoking in smoke free parks and refer to the Oregon State law in the defining the prohibited substances allowed. Councilor Tierney stated the verbiage should state areas zoned Public Recreation. Parks Committee member Brittanie Roberts volunteered, Councilor Tierney also volunteered, Ashley Baggett will also be on the committee, the committee will draft the ordinance and have the City attorney review it and bring it back in August for a vote.

B. Title 3 – Livestock Information

Lorna Poetter-2121 N. Mist Dr. - She did get her feathers in a ruffle when she saw the article in the paper. She has done a little research, Vernonia is unique, we are very rural, what she saw in the research is that the laws don't pertain to us based on acreage size. She thinks it should be covered under a nuisance ordinance. It's about sustainable living, growing our own food. She is saying to take into consideration the surrounding communities, but basically our community as a whole.

Rose Vasquez- 479 Rose Avenue- She has 12 hens that keep up with her family's needs. She understands that we have these policies but doesn't agree with the new ordinance. The umbrella policy she disagrees with, I'm not sure the focus is where it should be.

Jamie Lillethun-1222 Ruth Avenue- She lived in Portland for years, they rely solely on her husband's income. She believes the ordinances are there for a reason, all we should have to do is remind people. By taking away her chickens or pigs you will take away from her family, it will be a hardship on us.

Heidi Matheney-930 Riverside Drive- She has a rooster who is 8 years old, she would like to keep him, she has chickens that produce eggs, she does not store bought eggs, and she grew up on a farm. She does not want people who are careless with their animals to affect the others who do have animals and don't have problems.

Brett Costley-1282 Louisiana- Eliminating roosters as a blanket rule is not a good idea, there are benefits to roosters, 4-H, raising new chickens, etc.

Heather Lewis-847 Madison Avenue- If Council is considering a limit of chickens, they only have a lifetime of laying, and the overlap of more than 5 chickens will be necessity to keep your stock.

Julie Prohaska-941 Madison- 1903 homestead, 3+ acres, she has been raising sheep for pets, and chickens, for many years, she has a rooster he protects her hens, the rooster doesn't bother anybody.

Kaitlyn Eyrrick-116 6th Avenue- Representing 4-H, 4-H encourages kids to get involved in animals and careers, an ordinance will limits kids from doing 4-H, five families that raise animals in the city limits, 5 goats, 61 chickens, and 140 animals. 4-H helps a lot, you learn how to breed animals, and there genetics, financial skills, people skills, marketing strategies, it has been shown that 4-H students do better economically. Without 4-H she would not know how to do public speaking. If we pass this ordinance we will lose kids doing 4-H. As a club remember 4-H.

Councilor Hult requested bringing back the Hillsboro size, acreage chart, and a workshop with public involvement. Schedule a workshop, for Monday, September 14th 6:30pm, moratorium nuisance animals until we get this worked out.

C. ODOT Crosswalk at Hwy 47/Rose Avenue

City Administrator contacted ODOT permit specialist, about the crosswalk request for Cougar and Wilcox & Flegel ramp problem. They will have a meeting after the 4th of July holiday. He will be here in the next couple of weeks. Hopefully staff will bring this back at an August Council meeting. Councilor Tierney asks if the letter to request this crosswalk has been sent. She discussed this with GianPaolo that this letter should be in the critical path. Councilor Tierney would like with Council consensus for GianPaolo send ODOT a formal letter requesting that ODOT put in a crosswalk at Rose Avenue (Hwy 47) and Cougar Street.

D. Downtown Trees

City Administrator discussed the Council's past action, and his slides that he developed removing some of the downtown trees. Staff should contact Chip Bubl for "the right trees" and bring it back to first Council meeting in August.

E. Nickerson Loop update

City Administrator discussed the Nickerson Loop letters that explain the history on the pieces of the puzzle for Nickerson Loop. The letters in the packet state the signing of the final plat with conditions listed. Almost all the players are no longer here or have passed away. The specific language from the Fire Chief stated the minimum flow of gallons per minutes needs to be 1000. We tested the fire line and we currently have 675 gallons per minute. The City Administrator wanted a pow-wow with all the players. Mr. Smejkal had a death in the family that prohibited the group meeting. The City Administrator is beyond frustrated with the illegal action by the developer. There was a systematic failure by the City as an agency. Mayor Parrow asked for a recommendation. City Administrator's recommendation is a suspension of permitting, unless the permits include a sprinkler system in the plans. Check the hydrant at the church. A discussion took place around the water pressure in the Tree Streets, and does the City have water pressure at the church. Current houses being built have already been permitted, they would have to do design changes based on the developers' lack of follow through. Council consensus is to place a moratorium on allowing future building permits for any lots on Nickerson Loop.

F. Anderson Park Reservation Website

Council would like a message on the park host phone letting non computer savvy persons know they can communicate via phone or in person, horse arena area included. Look into success of this and move forward with Airport Park and Vernonia Lake if it is working well. Check if the system will allow people to reserve via phone prompts or not.

G. Open Air Market – Definition of Success – Bill Langmaid

13 vendors signed up, average is 7 vendors per week. Asked the City for 3 picnic tables and a bike rack, Open Air Market is willing to help with the cost of those items. Personally his own booth is doing 2 ½ times the sales, a lot of new customers, bicyclists stop by, debate club, the vendors served as ambassadors, put up shade stations for customers needing shade. They have signed up more vendors, they feel they have been successful, no complaints from the swimmers access. Will Council going to renew the permit past July? Brett Costley has experienced increase in revenue. Bill Langmaid requested the permit be extended from two months to four months. Council approved the extension until the end of September 2015.

H. New City Councilor Position Discussion

The City Council received only one application of an interested citizen to be appointed to the Vernonia City Council. The applicant is Mr. Bruce McNair. Council discussed the process by which they will move forward with the appointment. Council discussed whether or not to appoint the applicant to Council at the next meeting. Will they interview? The applicant said for transparency he would be fine with the interview. He would feel better. Councilor Seager made a motion to appoint Bruce McNair back on City Council. Motion died. Council will meet to interview the applicant Wednesday, July 8th, at 6:30pm to interview the applicant Bruce McNair.

10. New Business

A. Interest in Leasing City Owned Parcel along Hwy. 47

Sue Hadley the owner of Javalation in St. Helens has expressed extreme interest in locating a coffee stand business in Vernonia. She is asking staff to inquire if Council would entertain the idea of leasing the ground in parcel 3 of the City owned property on Hwy 47 (Rose Avenue). Council consensus is to explore and move forward with the idea of leasing the property to Sue Hadley (Javalation).

B. Jared Medearis- Eagle Scout

Presented his Eagle Scout project, in phases, they will be pressure washing the playground, basketball court, remove the profanity, pull weeds out of cedar chips areas, remove thorns, and help keep little kids from harm. Something they will be bringing is gloves, goggles, and equipment, one question is where debris will go afterwards, City personnel will spray weed stocks. He will be scheduling the City personnel to dump new cedar chips for playground area. They will be fixing the chain-link fence area, and replace the damaged chain-link. They would like to repaint the basketball court lines, they will need to work with City staff to help with machine to paint straight lines. They will move the benches in front of play shed to the playground area for parents to sit and watch the kids play. Bike racks cost around 300.00 he has communicated with a manufacturer who will ship for free. They will be replacing the logs around the cedar chip area. Public works will be able to help for working with backhoe and posthole digger. They will be removing the glass blocks that have been broken. He will be recruiting volunteers to help with the project, with flyers and calls to interested citizens. The main problem will be getting it done by Jamboree, Jared will use his charismatic skills to get help. Jared presented to Parks Committee at their last meeting. Council consensus of Council for the Mayor to sign the approve sheet.

11. Business from Departments

A. Police Department – Chief Michael Conner

Nuisance violations are working, staff is getting a lot of compliance and complaints. It is the cost of doing business. There are 8 applicants for the open Police position. Councilor Tierney asked to send mailer about nuisances and share updates to Community Bulletin Board pages.

B. City Administrator – Gian Paolo Mammone

A. City Administrator Report

City Administrator went over his report.

WWTP - is going, final notification from Gordon the Pre-Construction meeting will be the 15th of July at City Hall.

Spencer Park – ROMTEC is willing to work with us if we find a contractor to place the grade, stubs, and slab. Staff is putting out an RFB for two bid alternates one for the grading, slab,

and one for all inclusive construction of the bathroom from the ground up. It will take ROMTEC 6 weeks to deliver the bathroom kit. If we choose to go out for the bid and give the contractor until mid-September to complete the build we potentially could save money by giving the contractor time to work the project into his schedule. Consensus of Council was for the City Administrator to order the kit from ROMTEC for roughly 53,000, and proceed with the RFB.

Anderson Park Host – Angie and James have been active in interviewing the park hosts, two potential candidates to interview this week. Hopefully a new park host will be in place by the end of the week. Parks Committee member Brittanie Roberts would like to sit in on the interviews. Staff is to inform her of the dates and times.

PW Staff Position- Tyler Dougherty started last week.

Planner Position – City Administrator needs direction from the Council, we went out for many versions and did not have no luck. They have reconnected with Ben, he has been miserable with the past seven years. The City Administrator has a book for Council to read about GIS applications. The contract with Ben Fousek expired June 30th, 2015. What is Council consensus about the direction of this issue? Councilor Tierney wants certain things in place before we do a half time position, developing the scope of work, extending the contract for 1month, and then potentially putting a staffer position in place. Council consensus is to develop a formal extension of the GIS contract for three months.

The former Planner from Beaverton is not interested. City Administrator said Planning Group would like to work for the City, will the Council allow City Administrator to enter into a contract with this group temporarily. This contract would let us take care of our immediate needs. What the group suggested, the City would have to become a member, 500.00 a membership, they bill 60.00 an hour. This would be his recommendation. Membership is for one year. Councilor Tierney would like to advocate for the same person come out each time.

OCCMA Conference- City Administrator requested going to the three day conference in Bend, OR. Council gives consensus to let him go and pay the conference fee and late fee, hotel stay expenses and per diem, he will be using the City car for travel fuel will be on the city.

12. Ordinances/Resolutions

A. Resolution 11-15 Special City Allotment –Knott Street

Motion to adopt Resolution 11-15 Special City Allotment- Knott Street made by Councilor Tierney. Motion was seconded by Councilor Seager. Motion carried.

13. Correspondence

14. Items from Mayor, Councilors, City Administrator

Tierney-Received a call from Denise Barrett, Emergency Disaster Preparedness Program Columbia Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington and Clark counties planning group, they asked that the City of Vernonia sign on to the agreement. There is not a cost associated with it, we are being asked to sign on to demonstrate that we will collaborate around disaster preparedness. She will forward onto City Recorder for presentation at the next Council meeting. **Hult**-None

Seager-Phone in to Wednesday night interview cell phone attendance. Parrow-

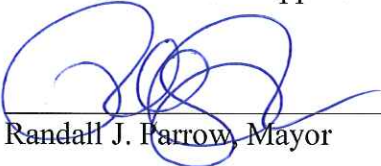
15. Action Items Summary – City Administrator

- Rick Hobart- He wants to get back into the carriage business for the community. He showed picture of his carriage. Council directed staff to help him get set up with permitting.

- Councilor Hult requested bringing back the Hillsboro size, acreage chart, and a workshop with public involvement. Schedule a workshop, for Monday, September 14th 6:30pm, moratorium nuisance animals until we get this worked out. Post on Facebook.
- Councilor Tierney would like with Council consensus for GianPaolo send ODOT a formal letter requesting that ODOT put in a crosswalk at Rose Avenue (Hwy 47) and Cougar Street.
- City Administrator discussed the Council's past action, and his slides that he developed removing some of the downtown trees. Staff should contact Chip Bubl for "the right trees" and bring it back to first Council meeting in August.
- Council consensus is to place a moratorium on allowing new/future building permits for any lots on Nickerson Loop until the conditions of the final plat agreement are completed by the developer or found to be completed as required. Contingent on City Attorney's approval. Effective immediately following this council meeting.
- Councilor Tierney asked to send mailer about nuisances and share updates to Community Bulletin Board pages. List options where to take debris.
- Council consensus is to develop a formal extension of the GIS contract for three months.
- Council consensus to hire Planning Group for one year, or however long the 500.00 covers.

16. Adjournment 10:40 pm

These minutes were approved at the regular City Council meeting August 3, 2015.



 Randall J. Farrow, Mayor

Attest: 

 Josette M. Mitchell, City Recorder

8-3-15

 Date

8/3/15

 Date